



*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts  
We carry light and love to the world.*

*Sunday, July 21, 2024  
9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*



# NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, July 21, 2024

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

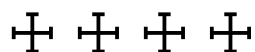
**OUR VALUES STATEMENT:** We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship, there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28). We, therefore, welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)

**VISION STATEMENT:** We seek to become people who live the nativity by...

***Working as a supportive family of faith to extend God's gracious welcome through worship, community service, and spiritual growth opportunities.***



**The Liturgy** is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* Setting Eight.

**Are you hearing impaired?** If you are having difficulty hearing our worship service, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

**Today's worship service** is being live-streamed beginning at 9:25am and will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9.

The service is available to view anytime on the home page of our website: [www.nlcww.org](http://www.nlcww.org).

**In-person attendance for last Sunday: 105**

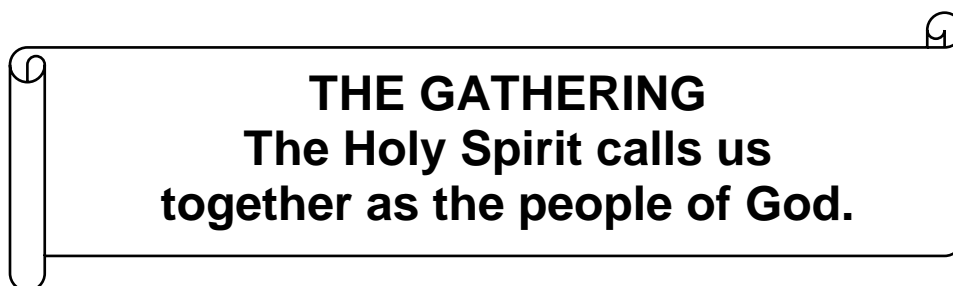
## **CHIMES**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

*He Leadeth Me*

Bradbury/Hayes



*Please stand as you are able and turn toward the baptismal font.*

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Everyone sees your goodness, God, for your tender love is blended into everything you do.

**Everything You have made will praise You, fulfilling its purpose. And all your godly ones will be found bowing before You.**

They will tell the world of the lavish splendor of your kingdom and preach about your limitless power.

**They will demonstrate for all to see your miracles of might and reveal the glorious majesty of your kingdom.**

(Psalm 145:9-12 – The Passion Translation)

*Please look toward the cross as it processes toward the altar.*

## **GATHERING HYMN**

*Blessed Assurance*

638

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

## GREETING

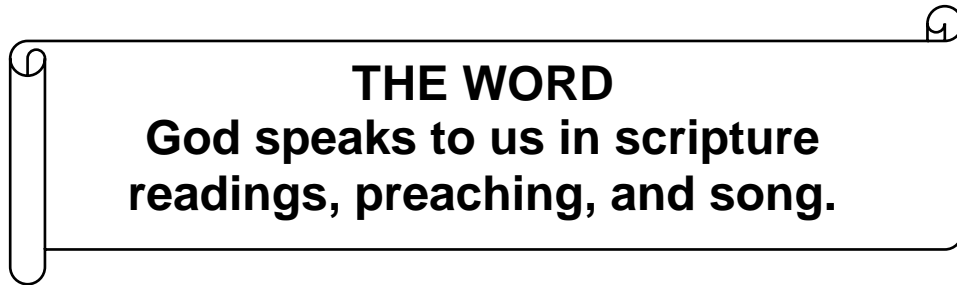
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, powerful and compassionate, You shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*



## SPECIAL MUSIC

*In The Garden*

C. Austin Miles

Soloist: Beryl Clements

## A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

**2:11-22**

Reader: Paige Burchhardt

<sup>11</sup>Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—<sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup>He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus

making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup>So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup>for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The holy gospel according to Mark.  
**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. <sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. <sup>54</sup>When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup>and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*To Be Your Presence*

546  
vv 1,2,4



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -  
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the  
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for  
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,  
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!  
love ex - pressed,  
church, re - jice,

## LITANY IN TIMES OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE

Lord, we have again picked up a weapon and fired it.

**We repent from our own political violence.**

We have again decided to kill our fellow citizens; our partisan T-shirts are covered in blood.

**We repent from our own political violence.**

Lord, we weep for the broken bodies, the broken minds — for all those broken by our bullets.

**We repent from our own political violence.**

Shed light, O Lord, to expose any and all plans of violence; drive such wicked works from our body politic.



**We repent from our own political violence.**

May political opponents humble themselves, Lord.

**May they serve their country with truth and grace, not insults or lies.**

Teach us again to reason together, Lord, though our sins be as scarlet.

**We repent from our own political violence.**

Disarm us, O Lord — our minds, lips, hearts, and hands — that we may more perfectly love you.

**We repent from our own political violence.**

Lord, let us be the repairers of the breach in our political life; let us be messengers of hope.

**We repent from our own political violence.**

Do not turn your face from us, Lord, but teach us your ways of peace.  
**Amen.**

*Stand or sit as you desire.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

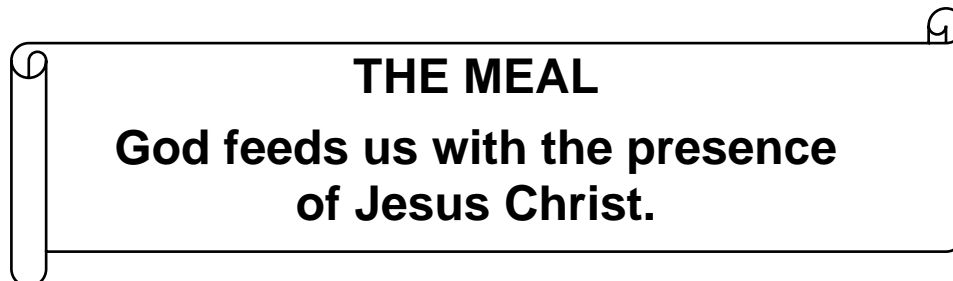
After each petition: In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*



## OFFERING

*You may drop your offering in the basket by the exit door or at the office during the week. You may also donate on-line at <https://www.nlcww.org>, or on our Facebook page. Now you may also contribute using Venmo or Zelle if you have an account or using the QR code below. For more information about these methods see today's Weekly Announcement Sheet.*



*Assisting Minister unveils the chalice and paten.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Jesus, Bread of life, You have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## REMEMBERING GOD'S ACTS OF GRACE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: You we praise and glorify, You we worship and adore.

**You formed the earth from chaos; You encircled the globe with air; You created fire for warmth and light; You nourish the lands with water.**

You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, You blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

**That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, You called to us through the life and death of Jesus.**

## WORDS OF CONSECRATION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, holy and merciful One, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to You in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Guests and friends of any age and background, come and eat at God's table!

*You may be seated. The ushers will invite each row to come to the altar. You may stand or kneel at the communion rail and receive bread and wine (or request a gluten free host and/or grape juice). Please let an usher know if you cannot come to the altar to receive communion. We will have communion brought to you.*

### *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

789, 782, 728, 779

*Please stand as you are able.*

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As You have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

### THE SENDING

**God blesses us and sends us  
in mission to the world.**

## BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, **✝** be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.



## SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

**With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.**

## DISMISSAL

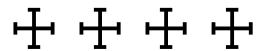
Go in peace! You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Andante Maestoso*

Arcangelo Corelli



## NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

2 Kings 4:42-44	Psalm 145:10-18
Ephesians 3:14-21	John 6:1-21

**COFFEE HOUR** – Please join us for fellowship in Winemiller Hall after today's worship service.

## PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

***New this week:*** Angela Russell

***Continue to pray for:*** Roger & Lynn, Tina Anderson, Rob Anthony, Maryanne B., Matthew Barthle, Herb Baynon, Carlos Bayron family, Stephen Benner, Marlene Biachin, Windy and Bill Binns, Paul Todd Brown, Iris Brunner, Agnes Burkart, Roger Cawley, Joyce Colombo, Patrick Cotter, Barb and Jim Cox, Denise Crawford, Kat Crawford, Judy Dietz, Annie Douglas, Deanne Dullea, Charlton Ewell, David Farmer, Tracy Flanders and family, Irene Froehlich, Janis & Ryan Geiger, Rich Geiser, Terry & Judie Gibson, Courtney Groetsch, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Terry Halgren, Ron and Linda Hansen, Emmet Heideman, Carol Heinecke, June Heinecke, Gary and Mary Heinecke,

Glenn Heinecke, Kay Hill, Barbara Hofving, Janet Holly, Klaus Horstmann, Joel Jensen, Rainer Jenss, Beth Johanssen, Brian Johnson, John Johnson, June Johnston, Willy K., Kevin Kehoe, Sandi Krol, Kerry & Lynn Krol, Rachel-niece of Mary Krol, Sandra Lee, Lofgren family, Elaine Malone, Antonio Mattei, Raina McDannold, Benjamin McDowall, Bradford Allan McWilliams, Sally Miller, Sharelle Miller, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Susan Nordstrom, Sheryl O'Conner, Kim Ohlhauser, Oliver family, Lisa Overs-Morton, Noel Prettyman, Daniel Raines, Judy Reid, Dennis Rogers, Rocco family, Janet Rosario, Angela S, Mary Sandvik, Patrick Sandvik, Rhonda Schadler, Carole Schaefer, Judi Schreiner, Erlinda Sheridan, Tyler Shirey, Sirmenis family, Debbie, Dan & Buddy Smith, Eileen Smith, Sally Spray, Barbara Strohl, John Sunnuto, Jessica Swan, Alan & Jackie Sweet, Mary Ann & Tom Szmanski, Mike Thrasher, Torres family, Alice Totten, Jim Viereck, family of Chad and Katy Waldorf, West family, Luke Williams, Brian Yoos, Christopher Younger, Lauretta Z.

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY**

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Private Tony D'Angelo, Areil Dietz, Tyler A. Germann, 1st Lt. Robert M. Heinecke, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Maj. USAF Will Lawlor, Cullen McDannold, Zachary McGuire, CTT1 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Cameron James Thompson-Airman 3rd Class, LCpl. Erich Timm, Chief Warrant Officer 3-Adam Timmerman, Airman Bob Totten, Kesley Underwood, Kyle Underwood, Maj. Chad Waldorf - Airforce.

***PRAYERS:*** *The list will be cleared every four weeks. If you wish to remain on the list for longer than four weeks, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. In case of emergency, contact the office at 352-597-1456 and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.*

*Altar flowers are given by:*



Nina Vaznelis

In memory of Ruth Vaznelis

**Altar Flowers:** *If you would like to order flowers in honor or in memory of someone, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can call the office at 352-597-1456. Donation is \$25.00 per vase. Flowers can be picked up after the 9:30AM Sunday service, or you can schedule a pick-up time with the office if you are not attending service.*

## ***Worship Leaders***

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**Presiding Minister**

Pastor Giuseppe Mattei

**Assisting Minister**

Robert Rios

**Scripture Reader**

Paige Burchhardt

**Ushers**

Gwen Mahon & Lou Prettyman

**Acolyte/Crucifer**

Arabella and Juliet Wright

**Greeters**

Evelyn Galli

**Music Director**

Donna Olsen

**Bell Choir Directors**

Janet & Todd Holly

**Altar Guild**

Gayle Howland & Gwen Mahon

**Sanctuary**

Connie Chase & Beryl Clements

**AV Director**

Art Alt

**Audio**

Pat Squires

**Cameras**

Tim Cotter & Mark Major

**Graphics**

Diane Alt, Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo

**Video Production**

Vicki Page

**Head Counter**

Barbara Crisanti

**Data Entry**

Linda Wagner

**NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE  
A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF  
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Phone (352) 597-1456

Email: [Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com](mailto:Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com), Website: [nlcww.org](http://nlcww.org)

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Deacon Charlotte Downing

Deacon Clyde Rosten

Music Director: Donna Olsen

Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt

Bell Choir Directors: Janet & Todd Holly

Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.